

Glade Church News

Week of September 13, 2026



Glade Church, a United Church of Christ (UCC) congregation, is a progressive Christian community—welcoming, compassionate, and joyful—seeking to embrace all people wherever they find themselves in life. We strive to discern God’s still-speaking voice through worship, study, fellowship, and service. We work for God’s peace and social, economic, and ecological justice.

Pastor Kelly is available for meetings on Mondays. Contact them at bryantkj@gmail.com to schedule an appointment.

Join us for worship at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday Morning

Attend in-person at 1600 Glade Rd. Blacksburg, or on Zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88914981619?pwd=Q3E4Rk95d2llZGtONlVqSDcrMm1xdz09/#_success

Weekly Post-Service Fellowship

Please sign up to bring refreshments for our weekly post-service fellowship time. The signup sheet is posted outside the sanctuary or you can contact Trips Bryant at kstbryant@gmail.com to sign up.

Introvert Gathering – Thursday September 17 6:30 PM

🧐 The Vibe

Low pressure, quiet productivity, and being "alone together." Do you want to get out of the house, be around people, but absolutely dread the exhausting small talk of typical social events? This group is for you. We gather to enjoy the comfort of a shared space while working completely independently on our own quiet activities. Bring whatever you are currently working on or enjoying.

🎨 What to Bring

Readers: Physical books, Kindles, graphic novels, or audiobooks (with headphones).

Crafters: Knitting, crocheting, sketching, embroidery, jewelry making, digital art, or journaling. (Please avoid messy mediums like wet paints, clay, or glitter out of respect for the venue).

Remote Workers: Laptops, notebooks, or study materials.

🕒 How It Works

First 15 Minutes: Arrival. Grab a seat and set up your space. You can wave, say a quick hello to others, or just settle in.

The Silent Block (1 Hour): A soft timer starts. We read, work, craft, and create in comfortable silence. No pressure to talk, mingle, or look busy.

Last 15 Minutes: The timer ends. You are welcome to quietly pack up and head out or briefly show your table neighbors what you worked on if anyone feels like sharing.

🔴 Our Ground Rules

Silence is the Default: There are no awkward silences here—only peaceful ones.

Respect the Bubble: If someone has headphones in or is deeply focused, please let them enjoy their flow state.

Zero Expectations: You don't have to introduce yourself to the whole room, and you can leave whenever you want.

Contact Sandra Bryant with questions or for more information.

Volunteers are Needed for Scripture Reading

Volunteers are needed to read scripture on Sunday mornings during service. Click the link below to access the signup sheet. Two readers are needed each week. Click on the comment bubble in the signup to see the scripture to be read that week.

[Glade Church Weekly Scripture Readers](#)

Volunteers are needed for Children's Ministry

Youth Group and Kids Church are on hiatus over the summer; however, volunteers are needed to help in the Nursery during Sunday service.

Sunday September 13
Nursery: Volunteer needed!

Laundry Love Informational Video

Check out the Laundry Love Informational Video that was created for use with a grant application.

Thank you to all who helped with creating the video, it's amazing!

Click here to watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cvLWZIQyKv4>

Food Pantry

Food Pantry donations collected at Glade continue to supplement the Future Economy Collective Food Drive that's distributed to Laundry Love guests on the third Sunday of each month. As of August 16, the FEC has requested cat food, paper products, coffee, bladder pads, trash bags, creamy peanut butter, and non-perishable food items. Thank you all for your donations, they are greatly appreciated!

Coffee & Devotion Group Meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 am

This virtual get-together meets at 10 a.m. on Zoom and lasts for about an hour for a time to meet people, share thoughts, hear a brief devotion, and join in prayer. This time of fellowship is open to everyone, it's a time to gather for conversation, devotion and prayer. Come meet some people you may not know. **Zoom link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89240288592?pwd=KzhRWlJiQTkzWWRIYTNUbkdPaUNqUTQo>

Women's Book Group Meets Third Mondays at 7 PM

The Women's Book Group meets on the third Monday of each month at 7 PM in person and/or on Zoom for a discussion of the current book. The book for September is *My Real Children* by Jo Walton. Contact Katie Morris at katie.lucot@gmail.com for more information.

Upcoming Neighbors in Need Special Offering Sunday October 4

The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. We will be taking a special offering at Glade on Sunday October 4, 2026.

Radical Conversations [RadCon] Meets Saturdays at 11:00 AM

Radical Conversations [RadCon] continues a series of explorations on the topic "Resistance as Public Theology in the United States". We will explore the role of religion as resistance in movements such as the American Revolution, Abolitionist Movement, Women's Suffrage, Civil Rights, and Vietnam plus others. For more information, contact Edd Sewell: eddsewell@gmail.com

Laundry Love

Sunday September 20 from 2-4 PM and Thursday September 24 from 6-8 PM at North Main Laundromat.



Laundry Love has opportunities to volunteer. This is a great way to put "Words" into "Actions" of faith and love. We do this at the laundromat on North Main across from the Y-Thrift Shop. Click below to volunteer! Can't join us at the laundromat but still want to help? Donations of quarters, laundry detergent, fabric softener sheets and individually wrapped juice and snacks are always welcome!

[CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEER FOR LAUNDRY LOVE](#)

Getting to the Root: Food Injustice

From the UCC Justice & Peace Action Network: Each month, UCC experts unpack a complex justice issue through our [Getting to the Root series](#). This month, Rev. Seth Wispelwey, United Church of Christ Minister for Economic Justice, reflects on the pervasiveness of food injustice in our country from high costs to dangerous working conditions. He highlights partnerships like the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), who work in solidarity with farmworkers to ensure food is accessible, affordable, and ethically produced. You can read the [full reflection here](#).

Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry – Holiday Bag Project

This year Glade Church has pledged to provide 278 14 oz. cans of cranberry sauce to be included in the special bag of food for a holiday meal for families. We'll be accepting donations through Sunday October 11th.



Tell Congress to Protect the Sacred Right to Vote

The Supreme Court ruled to limit Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, which has long served as the primary tool for challenging racially discriminatory voting maps. The ruling makes it harder for voters in Black and Brown majority districts to challenge unfair district lines, clearing the way for maps that dilute their political voice. Ask your members of Congress to pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

[Take Action Here](#)

Do you have an item you'd like included in the weekly newsletter? Send info and pictures to Sandra Bryant at kstbryant@gmail.com

UCC Purpose, Vision, and Mission Statements

Purpose: To love God with all our heart, mind soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves. (From the Gospel of Matthew)

Vision: United in Christ's love, a just world for all.

Mission: United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.

John 17:21 is the scriptural foundation of the United Church of Christ
